

## **Ellana Crew – Testimony**

My experience with FIRST has been very interesting. I first heard about the team from a friend of mine who was on the team, and the way she talked about it, it just seemed like a lot of fun and a good opportunity. So, the next year, (last year) I tried out for the FRC team, and got in on the business side. Unfortunately, since I can't see the robot, I couldn't be on build or programming, but business was just as important. It turned out to be every bit as fun and interesting as that friend said it would be. My favorite part about being on the team so far has been the competitions. I love the atmosphere of a robotics competition, and getting to somewhat see the robot in action. I am actually not planning to go into a STEM-related education or career, possibly teaching other blind children, but nonetheless, it's still extremely interesting to see the robot go from a doodle on a white board to a working machine right in front of you, and the amount of collaboration that goes into it is amazing. I had originally joined in hopes of finding something to keep me busy that I could actually do, and it turned out to be so much more than that.